[29th October 1935

*Savings realized on account of the abolition of taluk boards.*

*243 *Q.*—Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received the revised budgets of all the local bodies after the abolition of the taluk boards; and

(*b*) what are the savings realized by each district from its local fund money on account of the abolition of the taluk boards?

*A.*—(*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*b*) A statement showing the total ordinary expenditure of all the taluk boards and the district board in each district during 1933–34 and the total estimated ordinary expenditure of the district boards in 1934–35 is laid on the table.[a] The figures do not show accurately the savings, as there may be variations in the budget due to other causes.

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—"May I know whether the Government will be pleased to issue a statement on the actual savings effected by the abolition of the taluk boards?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"It is not an easy matter to get all the details. Records are not available in the Secretariat. The required information has to be obtained from the various districts. If it is possible to get all the information from the districts, I will certainly get it and furnish it to the House."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—"If it is not possible to say what the savings are that have been effected by the abolition of the taluk boards, then how was it possible for Government to say at the time of introducing the Amending Bill, that by the abolition of the taluk boards they would be able to save so much?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"We calculated on the basis of the taluk board staff which could be dispensed with, and on the basis of the savings that could be effected by way of contingencies and travelling allowance to Members and so on."

11-45 a.m. Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—"May I ask whether the Hon. Minister considers that the present financial position of the district boards is satisfactory and if it is not satisfactory, what steps he proposes to take to improve it?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"I cannot say that the finances of the district boards are satisfactory. The Government are doing all that is possible to improve the position."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—"If there are no actual savings on account of the abolition of the taluk boards, at least for the sake of better administration are the Government prepared to divide the district boards into suitable divisional boards?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"I have not stated that there are no savings. I said that it is not possible without a great deal of

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[a] Printed as Appendix V on page 111 infra.

trouble to collect all the required information with regard to the present financial position from the district boards. Originally, in answer to various previous questions on the subject and also during the debate on the Bill for the abolition of taluk boards, figures were supplied to the House showing the estimated savings."

Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar:—"Apart from giving actual figures of savings, does the Government feel that the abolition of the taluk boards has been justified by any saving that has been as a matter of fact effected?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"There has been a saving and the financial position of the district boards has improved as a result of it."

*District boards proposed for bifurcation during the year* 1936.

* 244 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the district boards are which are proposed to be bifurcated in the course of the year 1936;

(*b*) on what principles and in which order the bifurcation will be taken up; and

(*c*) whether the bifurcations will be completed in respect of these district boards before the new general elections come in?

*A.*—(*a*) It has not yet been decided what district boards should be bifurcated in 1936.

(*b*) & (*c*) Do not arise.

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—"Apart from the districts which have so far been bifurcated, may I ask, Sir, in how many cases investigation has been commenced with a view to bifurcation in the near future?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"Investigations are going on with regard to Chingleput, North Arcot and Ganjam."

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—"Is there no investigation with regard to Salem?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"I have mentioned the three districts with regard to which investigation is going on."

*Proposal to postpone the elections to the District Boards of Trichinopoly and South Arcot.*

* 245 *Q.*—Mrs. A. Rukmani Lakshmipathi: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Trichinopoly and South Arcot District Board elections will be postponed to January next year; and

(*b*) if so, what the reasons are that prevail with the Government for such postponement?

*A.*—(*a*) There is no such proposal before the Government.

(*b*) The question does not arise.